

December 9, 2020

Council President Gómez and staff in 2019

Dear District Nine Residents,

Tomorrow marks the end of my term as a City Councilmember.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the Councilmember for District Nine for the past four years and as the Council President for the past two. I have worked to create local government that is equitable, inclusive, transparent, and accountable.

I am proud of what we have achieved by working together to advance new approaches to the critical challenges facing all San Diegans.

In 2017, I released my Housing Action Plan, and we have made great strides in addressing housing and homelessness. What began as local policies became the CASA Housing Act and a statewide end to discrimination based on source of Join me in Welcoming the Newly Elected Councilmembers

VIRTUAL INAUGURATION CEREMONY

Thursday, December 10 10:00 a.m.

- Online at CityTV
- Channel 24 for Cox Communications or Time Warner Cable
- Channel 99 for AT&T

income. For the first time, we are working to preserve the affordable housing we have. We updated inclusionary housing regulations to build more affordable housing, made it easier to build accessory dwelling units and tiny homes, and changed policies to prioritize affordable housing on publicly owned excess property. We invested and expanded a pilot program that went from relying on two social workers to reach out to unsheltered residents in our neighborhoods to a citywide program that employs 20 social workers, creating a compassionate process that gets people off the streets and into homes.

As Chair of the Metropolitan Transit System and on the board of SANDAG, I began to change the culture of the organizations and helped make transit a genuine priority.

As Council President, I led the Council in quickly responding to the COVID-19 crisis by moving online and maintaining access for the public. I brought forward and won support for one of the earliest eviction moratoriums in the state to protect renters and small businesses. I am proud of helping to create the new Office of Race and Equity and the Community Equity Fund and win funding to help bridge the digital divide in low-income communities. I am also proud to have played a role in bringing the transformative development of SDSU Mission Valley to fruition.

Across District Nine, we have advanced and completed new and longstanding projects, including preserving a library, maintaining tree planting and tree trimming, increasing park space and improving existing parks, and revitalizing Chollas Creek, which stretches across the district.

To the incoming Mayor and Councilmembers, and to my former colleagues: We know that finding the path forward isn't always easy but the work of government is worthy, especially during these difficult times. We must take bold action to make our city more just and equal.

With gratitude and love!

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Georgette Gómez

Council President, City of San Diego and District Nine

TRANSITIONING TO COUNCILMEMBER-ELECT ELO-RIVERA

A successful Council office is a team effort. I am so proud of my staff and what we've accomplished on behalf of the residents of San Diego during the past four years.

Last week, my staff and I met (virtually) with Councilmember-Elect Sean Elo-Rivera's team for an indepth transition meeting. I am confident that he and his staff will continue to advocate fiercely for all of the communities of District Nine.

Following Thursday's inauguration ceremony, you will be able to reach the new office at:

SeanEloRivera@sandiego.gov and 619-236-6699.